

**From:** roberta e. newman [mailto:robertaellen@mac.com]

**Sent:** Monday, May 12, 2008 11:53 AM

**To:** MLPAComments

**Subject:** Please approve a strong plan to protect California's North Central Coast.

*Dear Fish & Game Commissioners,*

*I care about seeing that California's coastal waters are protected for future generations. Years ago we took steps to safeguard places like Yosemite and Mt. Shasta so they would remain part of our natural legacy. Now is the time to do the same for California's North Central Coast. I urge you to approve a strong network of Marine Protected Areas based on a backbone of strong reserves.*

*Marine reserves work. Dozens of scientific studies confirm that these areas harbor more and bigger fish, and support a greater diversity of life than areas left open to overfishing and the destruction of sensitive habitats. Along the Central Coast, divers, local business owners, conservationists and fishermen came together to protect California's underwater resources. We need to continue and make the MLPA work for the whole state, by supporting scientific monitoring, enforcement and education so that we can all enjoy these natural treasures.*

*Without the long-term security of marine protected areas, we are gambling with our fish, underwater wildlife and coastal communities. That is not a risk we should take. Please approve a strong plan to protect California's North Central Coast.*

*Sincerely,*

*Roberta E. Newman*

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